

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

Richard Fitzgerald	-	President District 11
Charles J. Martoni	-	Vice President District 8
John P. DeFazio	-	Council-At-Large
Chuck McCullough	-	Council-At-Large
Matt Drozd	-	District 1
Jan Rea	-	District 2
James R. Burn, Jr.	-	District 3
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Vince Gastgeb	-	District 5 (via telephone)
Joan Cleary	-	District 6
Nick Futules	-	District 7
Robert Macey	-	District 9
William Russell Robinson	-	District 10
Jim Ellenbogen	-	District 12
Amanda Green Hawkins	-	District 13

Allegheny County Courthouse
Fourth Floor, Gold Room
436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Tuesday, July 13, 2010 - 5:00 p.m.

SARGENT'S COURT REPORTING SERVICE, INC.
429 Forbes Avenue, Suite 1300
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412) 232-3882 FAX (412) 471-8733

IN ATTENDANCE:

James Flynn - County Manager
Joseph Catanese - Director of Constituent Services
Jared Barker - Director, Legislative Services
Jennifer Liptak - Budget Director
Jack Cambest - Solicitor

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: If everyone would please rise. Welcome to the Tuesday, July 13th, 2010 meeting of the Allegheny County Council. If you would rise for the Pledge of Allegiance and remain standing for a moment of silent prayer or reflection.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Moment of silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you. Please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?
MR. BURN: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Cleary?
MS. CLEARY: Present.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?
MR. DEFAZIO: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?
MR. DROZD: Present.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?
MR. ELLENBOGEN: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?
MR. FINNERTY: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?
(No response.)
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?
MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Present.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?
MR. MARTONI: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. McCullough?
MR. MCCULLOUGH: Present.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Present.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Fitzgerald, President?

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Fourteen (14) members present.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Proclamations/
certificates. 5782-10.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring Colonel
Michael P. Crall for his service as the commander of the

Pittsburgh District of the Army Corps of Engineers.
Sponsored by Councilmen Finnerty and Fitzgerald.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Colonel, would you join us? Do you want to bring T.J. up also?

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: I'm going to have Councilman Finnerty read the proclamation. I just wanted to extend our thanks and our congratulations to some of the great work that the Corps and Colonel Crall has done over the last few years. I know I've worked very closely with the Colonel and I know many of my colleagues have as well as we dealt with some of --- the flooding situation and this most recent winter with some of the scary situations we had with the high snow pack. And things could have been much, much worse than they turned out to be for a lot of our constituents. And it was really Colonel Crall and the Corps who really helped us and notified us and had our municipalities and all of our folks ready to go. So he's certainly going to be sorely missed, and we want to congratulate him as he moves on. And I'm going to have Councilman Finnerty read the proclamation. Councilman Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd just like to say one thing before I start. Colonel, we're going to miss you. You came in here and there was a lot of problems with storms and Ivan. You met it head on, didn't shy away from anything, went to the meetings and explained it to the people so they knew what was going on, you and T.J., you mainly, and got it together. And that was very important for our people in Allegheny County, and we really do appreciate that. I'd like to read the proclamation.

Whereas, the Pittsburgh District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers employs the most experienced and well-trained professionals to manage our area's waterways and flooding concerns.

And whereas, under the direction of Colonel Michael P. Crall, who assumed command of the Pittsburgh District on July 13th, 2007, our region has remained safe and prepared for any disaster that could occur.

And whereas, Colonel Crall will be leaving his command of the Pittsburgh District on July 16th, 2010 and assuming a position with a private engineering firm in Pittsburgh.

And whereas, Colonel Crall dutifully served our region throughout his three-year tenure in command, just as he served our country in various tactical commands and staff assignments in military bases throughout our country and abroad during his career.

And whereas, Colonel Crall's leadership and commitment to the Pittsburgh District, to our country and to the citizens of our nation is evident in his dedication to apply his unique skills in helping our nation function.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, honors Colonel Michael P. Crall for his excellent service to the Pittsburgh District of the Army Corps of Engineers. We commend him for his guidance and engineering expertise, and we wish him well as he embarks on a new chapter in his life. This is sponsored by myself and Council President Rich Fitzgerald this 13th day of July, 2010.

(Applause.)

COLONEL CRALL: Thank you so much. I am absolutely overwhelmed and honored, but it takes a team. It takes a team from the public and private sector, academia, but most of all, committed leaders such as you to attack this infrastructure crisis that we had that's public health and safety, the environment, the economy and the quality of life of the citizens in our whole region. I want to thank you so much for your dedicated leadership and ask you to support my successor, who's a son of Pittsburgh, that will be taking over on Friday. And please never hesitate to give us a call, so we can bring our power to bear to try to help the quality of life of citizens of the region. Thanks so much.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: 5783-10.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring the 20th anniversary of the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act and naming July 26, 2010 as Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Councilman Fitzgerald.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Okay. I'm going to ask John Tague to join me up here. It's hard to believe that it's been 20 years since the Americans with Disabilities Act has been passed. I can remember back when it was passed, there was, you know, some controversy, you know,

is this going to be too costly? Is this something that's going to make things uncompetitive? And really, when it's done, it's opened up the avenues of opportunity to more people and a lot more people of talents to access buildings, access public facilities. And it's just been a great thing for our society. So we want to honor and recognize the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. And I'm going to ask John Tague, who's really just been a great advocate and a great partner for all of us in recommending to us, making suggestions to us and being an advisor to all of us in setting public policy, to make sure that we take into consideration those with disabilities in the disability community. So I'm going to ask John to say a few words as I present this to him.

Whereas, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the ADA, was passed on July 26th, 1990 to ensure the civil rights of citizens with disabilities.

And whereas, the principles of equality and inclusion, as set forth by the ADA, in the laws of Pennsylvania and the ordinances of Allegheny County greatly benefit and empower persons with disabilities.

And whereas, numerous organizations in Allegheny County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania work with constituents in communities to bring forth the promise of hope and freedom that is envisioned by the passage of the ADA.

And whereas, July 26th, 2010 celebrates the 20th anniversary of the ADA Act and a day that will be enjoyed with a celebratory event at Station Square in the South Side of Pittsburgh.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, does hereby honor the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act and declares July 26th, 2010 as Americans with Disabilities Act Awareness Day in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Allegheny County Council this 13th day of July, 2010. John, if you would come up. And congratulations.

(Applause.)

MR. TAGUE: Thank you. Thank you for your kind words, Rich. There's a lot of advocates to thank in Allegheny County. But I'd like to thank County Council for issuing this proclamation. I'm here tonight representing, really, five organizations that have put

this event together on the 26th. That's UCP/CLASS, Three Rivers Center for Independent Living, the Consumer Health Coalition and Allegheny County Disability Connections as well as the City/County Taskforce, which I serve on. What I'd like for us to do, and this is true of the audience also, I'd like you to come to the event on the 26th. We have a celebration. We have an event in the afternoon and we have a celebration in the evening, and it should be a lot of fun. Hopefully the weather will cooperate with us.

I would like, really, to acknowledge some folks. Commissioner Leonard Staisey was a leader in our community a long time ago, but it was also a significant one. And on the passing of Paul Dick, we lost a tremendous advocate, along with Ruth Brenyo. And they set the tone many years ago for the disability community.

I'd like to acknowledge a couple things the county has done. First of all, we created the City/County Taskforce in 1994. We have a visitability ordinance that gives an incentive for people to make their homes visitable. And we have one of the best transit systems in the country. Our ACCESS system is a natural leader and a model for a lot of transit operators. We also have done one significant thing. At one time we had well over 235 inaccessible polling places. But because of the leadership of Council and Dan Onorato, we're down to like five. And people wonder, where are those five? Well, we've got five left, but we've done a tremendous job. And I'd also like to acknowledge the County Parks. We now have six inclusive playgrounds.

So the County Council and county government stepped up to the plate. We have a lot of work left to do. No doubt about that. But with your cooperation, I think we can get a lot of things done in the future. So we're looking forward, really, to the 25th anniversary of the ADA. It will be a quarter of a century. So I'd like to thank you again, Rich, and County Council for your kind proclamation, because we really do, in the disability community, appreciate your leadership. Thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: 5784-10.

MR. CATANESE: The remainder will be read into the record.

Certificate of Achievement honoring Alex Gilbert of Boy Scout Troop 905 for earning his Eagle Scout ranking. Sponsored by Councilman Drozd.

5785-10. Certificate of Achievement honoring William Mann of Boy Scout Troop 905 for earning his Eagle Scout ranking. Sponsored by Councilman Drozd.

5786-10. Certificate of Achievement honoring Bobby Hasenbein of Boy Scout Troop 368 for earning his Eagle Scout ranking. Sponsored by Councilman Drozd.

5787-10. Proclamation honoring the career and retirement of Dr. Nancy Crago of the Penn State Cooperative Extension in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council President Fitzgerald.

5788-10. Certificates of Achievement honoring Justin Bright, Andrew Glaid, Brian Hertneky, Kyle Martin, Sean O'Mara, Hirsch Singhal and Sean Walsh of Boy Scout Troop 215 for earning Eagle Scout ranking. Sponsored by Councilman Gastgeb.

Certificate of Recognition celebrating the 60th anniversary of Phillip and Ruth Tomasello. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

5790-10. Certificate of Recognition celebrating the 60th anniversary of Rick and Sandy Pomycalas. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

5791-10. Certificate of Recognition honoring Alain Girman of Serra Catholic High School for being named the 2010 McKeesport Daily News Baseball Player of the Year. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

5792-10. Certificate of Recognition honoring Tori Paterra of Elizabeth Forward High School for being named the 2010 McKeesport News Girls' Athlete of the Year. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

5793-10. Certificate of Recognition honoring Jenna Dunlay of McKeesport Area High School for being named the 2010 McKeesport News Softball Player of the Year. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

5794-10. Certificate of Recognition honoring Brian Dzurenda of Serra Catholic High School for being named the 2010 McKeesport News Baseball Coach of the Year. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

5795-10. Certificates of Achievement honoring Vincentian Academy's softball team for winning the WPIAL Class A Championship. Sponsored by Councilwoman Rea.

5796-10. Certificates of Achievement honoring Pine Richland High School's baseball team for winning the

WPIAL Class AAAA Championship. Sponsored by Councilwoman Rea.

5797-10. Certificates of Achievement honoring North Allegheny High School's boys' volleyball team for winning the WPIAL Class AAA Championship. Sponsored by Councilwoman Rea.

5801-10. Proclamation commending Paula Creamer for winning the 2010 U.S. Women's Open at Oakmont Country Club. Sponsored by Councilman McCullough.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Presentations and addresses. We have an address this evening, our quarterly address from Chief Executive Dan Onorato, and I see Mr. Onorato is here tonight. And I want to thank him for coming and giving us an update on what's going on in the county and then any questions that Council members would have. Executive Onorato, the floor is yours.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the County Council. I'm here to give a quarterly update. I just have a few items. And then I'm really here to answer any questions you might have about anything that you've been reading about, hearing about or dealing with within this chamber. So let me just go over some of the brief issues since the last time I was here. A couple points.

North Park, the lake dredging, I know it's of interest to many of you here and some of you obviously represent the area. That is moving along. It is a big, big, big project. There's a lot of sediment that's been removed from that lake, and it's interesting when you see the numbers. When it's over, the lake can be anywhere from, they're saying 10 to 30 feet deep in some areas. And before the project, it was as shallow as two feet in some areas because of the sediment that built up. So the project is moving forward, and you'll see a lot of trucks moving around as the project is on track for completion in May of 2011. So next spring, hopefully, if things keep going according to plan as scheduled, the lake will be completed and brought back to its original drawings and original depths from the '30s.

A new issue, the commissary and exchange. The U.S. Army signed a lease to construct a new commissary and exchange on county-owned property adjacent to the McGarity Reserve Center in Moon Township. Construction is slated to begin in the fall of 2011, completion estimated in late 2012.

A couple things. Kanesh. An update on the Kanesh. As you know, we all dealt with Kanesh that were losing \$10,000,000 several years ago. We put together a reform plan, and that plan has been rolled out over the years. So as of today, we have opened 12 independent living units at the Kane Regional Center in Glen Hazel. Construction is under way on additional independent living units at the Kane Center in Ross Township. And both of these projects are part of continuing care outlined in the Kane Action Plan that was adopted several years ago.

We also rolled out the NACo prescription discount card. Allegheny County is now participating in the prescription discount program sponsored by the National Association of Counties. The cards are available at locations throughout the county, as well as for download on the Internet. The program is free and offers an average savings of 22 percent off the retail price of commonly-prescribed drugs. Cards may be used at more than 300 pharmacies in Allegheny County by all residents, regardless of age, income or existing health coverage.

Youth Summer Job Program. I know many of you are interested in that issue. We have hired approximately 700 youth as part of our summer job program. We hope to have another 300 on board real soon. These are decent-paying jobs for a lot of low-income youth between the ages of 14 and 24. Many of the jobs focus on green initiatives and community improvements.

You might have seen in the paper today we continue to close the gap on the Great Allegheny Passage, and Sandcastle is one of the last pieces. We're getting very close to an agreement with the owners. We're hoping to keep that moving and close that gap on time by the November 11, 2011 date that we've been all striving for.

And then finally, we've launched Active Allegheny, an effort to develop a comprehensive commuter, bicycle and pedestrian transportation plan for Allegheny County. The county has partnered with PennDOT to integrate walking, biking and other non-motorized modes of travel into the existing transportation system. The goal is to offer residents more sustainable and healthy community choices through excellent bicycle and pedestrian routes that connect our communities, businesses, schools, attractions and homes.

And again, that is just a brief overview, and I'm really here to answer any questions you might have about what's going on or issues that are facing us.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Any questions for the County Executive? Councilman Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President. Chief Executive, thank you for your appearance and your cooperation with us in this regard. Mr. President, if I might, each member of this Council has in front of them two letters that I sent to the Chief Executive. And unless you have some objection to members having those letters for reference, I'd like to speak about their content and ask a few questions of the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Go right ahead.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you. These letters, Mr. Executive, I think you may have received, but I won't presume that. Mr. Barker will give you a copy. Both letters reference the same three issues. One was sent on January 12th, 2010 and another one on June 7th, 2010. These letters reference a concern --- three concerns I raised when you first appeared before this Council on January 12th, 2010. One relates to the diversity of the county's workforce and related issues, another, long-term financial planning for the county, and third, youth development activities.

I don't presume that the answers to these concerns are in your possession this evening, particularly since the June 7th letter indicated that we had not received the written response which you promised us on January 12th, the written response to these concerns. I am still interested in this Council receiving a written response. And unless you have it this evening, I will defer to another time to raise this concern. But if you are aware of these issues or you did receive my letters, I certainly would like to know whether or not you or your administration will be addressing these concerns or how you might presently be addressing them.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Well, I don't know why you don't have it in writing, but I will find out. As you know, the staff of the county is in the room tonight, the vast majority of them. And as you know, we're in the middle of doing an audit that you all approved, not only to diversity, but to a pay diversity study, too, between women and minority employees in Allegheny County. Within that particular study, a lot of this information is going

to come out, because obviously, you have to know the diversity of your force to come up with those answers. And that was codified by this body. I think the price --- was it \$30,000?

MR. FLYNN: I don't know the price, but it will be done by December.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: It will be done by December, and we're in the middle of the audit as we speak. So I can give you something in writing that relates to that. But more importantly, by December you're going to actually have a report from an outside agency on disparity of pay, which will also have a lot of the information on diversity within the county, which I think will be very helpful because it will be an independent verification of what's happening and where we have to make improvements, both in pay and employment in general.

The long-term financing plan, I plan on --- obviously, I'm going to be here presenting my budget to County Council probably sometime in September, according to the Code. We'll be talking about the financing plan for next year. But in that long-term financing plan --- last year I stood here in front of Council and I presented my budget. And for the first time, I actually talked about more than one year. I presented a budget for 2010 and talked about some options and ideas for 2011 going forward, because we all recognize there's about a \$30,000,000 structural deficit that was being dealt with with either one-time revenues or selling of a building, and that we had to deal with that long-term financing issue. So I will be doing that in writing with the budget I present, but it still doesn't mean we can't send you something in writing now on all three of these, how we're addressing them.

Youth development activities. I'm looking at your category here. As you know, we had a couple of negative reports from the Department of Public Welfare as it relates to the juvenile center in Allegheny County. We did bring an outside expert to do an audit and review of the entire system from top to bottom. And we asked Estelle Richman at the time, who was the director of the Department of Public Welfare, to recommend names for us, and she gave us names. And they came in and helped us get --- I mean, I want to be sure. Are we still on a conditional or do we have a permanent license?

MR. FLYNN: No, we've got a full license.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: So we went from the conditional license back to a permanent full license after that audit. Again, I can share with you what came out of that audit and review, which should have been sent here. So I'll take responsibility for that not being delivered yet, but I'd be more than happy to put in writing what's being done on each one of these bullet points. But the good news is it appears you're going to be able to look at some independent reports that are actually looking at all three of these issues, that you'll be able to comment on and make suggestions on. But you are right. The last meeting I was here, I said I would send something in writing on all of these. Well, that might not have happened. The good news is that we are working on all three of them and actually putting real resources behind all three of these bullet points to get answers for you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. Chief Executive. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Any other questions? Mr. Futules, then Mr. Drozd.

MR. FUTULES: I have two questions. First, I'd like to ask if you could update us as far as the FireVEST Program that's in Allegheny County, let everybody update as to how it's going.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Well, I know the last time I checked, and that was a while ago, it was in the 80 range. Does anybody have the numbers on how many people are in that program? I'll get that for you. But I know the last time I was talking about it, and that was several months ago, maybe, even longer, I know it --- the mid 80s that we had people signed up that were actually participating in that program. But I want to give you more current numbers.

MR. FUTULES: I did see some numbers, but I was more interested in the fact that a newspaper article, Oneida County, New York, picked up on what we're doing here, and then they started doing it in other counties and other states. And I actually put up a motion to notify all the counties across the United States, because volunteerism is a tough thing across this country, and I'd like to see you try to promote that in Allegheny County.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Yes. And I've actually received calls from other counties about this program. People are very --- especially the counties that have

their own community colleges. They see this as a golden opportunity, not just for volunteer fire companies. They're looking at it for what we also did with our unemployment. You know, when somebody's laid off, they can come to Allegheny County Community College and present their letter that shows they're laid off, and we offer them free tuition and modified programs, because there's a job waiting for them, and we work with companies that need it. So community college can actually be an answer to a lot of these issues, volunteerism or obviously economic hardship. And Allegheny County has taken the lead. A lot of people are looking at us and how we run it.

MR. FUTULES: My next question is not a question, more of an update on the following. Just currently, we had a Women's U.S. Open here in Allegheny County, another great event.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Yes.

MR. FUTULES: And I know the role of what Allegheny County plays, but a lot of people didn't know, and they don't realize what goes on behind the scenes. There's quite a lot of things that the county itself has to do. Can you tell us as to what our role was for the U.S. Open?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Yeah. And I'm glad you said that. Let me thank the men and women of a lot of the departments in the county that really have made Oakmont a great place to come besides the golf course. The amount of calls I get from both the Men and the Women's Open, because they love the cooperation they get from Public Safety, to how we were creating parking areas using our parks, to just patrolling the streets up in Oakmont and having the complete resource of the county and the Department of Safety involved, is a real selling point for bringing it back. And as you know, the Men's Open was already announced, I think, for 2016. Maybe I have the wrong date. It was one of the shortest turnaround periods because it was such a good experience they had. The Women's U.S. Open, the feedback that I'm getting was just as good.

We've got this down, but the men and women who work for this county do a great job and take a lot of pride in what they do. It's sort of showing off our region. And we work very closely with Oakmont and the other municipalities out there. It's a great

relationship. But they all work hard together, and it pays off for us.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Mr. Drozd.

MR. DROZD: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Mr. Onorato, for coming before us. One of the questions I would ask --- you know I talk a lot to my constituents, your constituents, my constituents, our constituents, and they may not even be from my district, but I talk to a lot of people in Allegheny County that give their opinion on different issues and give their thoughts. One of the things that I still, again, have great concerns, that you're running for a statewide office. And whether it be you or your opponent in the primary --- and I hold no party lines here in case anybody wants to bring that point up; it isn't about party lines --- or whether your opponent here in the general, they don't want to pay salary. They don't want to pay for you or anyone running across the state. They think --- and to clarify this, I'm not using the term resign --- they feel and they agree with me that you should take a leave of absence, particularly --- you know, you are paid by the people of Allegheny County, so when you step out of Allegheny County, your time is dedicated. I can't believe that you can tell me honestly and sincerely that you're putting a full-time effort, and it's going to get tighter as the race gets on.

The first question I'd like to ask, have you thought more about this and do what's right for the people of Allegheny County and give back? Why should they pay? Why should you ask any less than you'd ask any of your directors here in this audience or any people who work for this --- serve, not work; you serve, I serve the people here in this area and anywhere on this staff serve the people of Allegheny County. Why would you ask any less, and why wouldn't you consider it?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: I don't ask any less, and my answer has not changed. I notice this is the third time we've had this conversation in chamber, and my position is very clear. I'm doing what's been done for 250 years in this country. The Charter is very clear. It did not want to have the executive have to resign if they run for higher office, and they did want Council to resign if they run for office. Obviously, you can change the Charter. I would be against that change. I think this is a good form

of government. So I put 100 percent time in as County Executive. I don't need to be in the courthouse. I don't need to be in my county Jeep. I don't need to be across the streets. I'm the County Executive 24/7, no matter where I'm located, and I'm available and I'm performing my functions. I'm blessed with a very talented staff that works every day with me, and it has not been a problem. And I don't think it's a problem for Tom Corbett. I think he can do his job while he runs, and that's the way the system is. So I have not changed my position at all.

MR. DROZD: As a response, you know, the last time --- you know, I don't ask anything of you that I don't get input from our constituents. Again, I'll tell you they don't agree with you. And what may be in the Charter and the Constitution, whatever, doesn't make things ethical. People do things or not, and I'm not saying you're doing anything --- you're a good person in many ways. I'm just telling you this is the way they feel. I take a poll. They said this.

Secondly, here's on the agenda this bridge up here on the Turnpike, which is a nice idea about the bicycle bridge. But I must tell you that I, again, have talked to our constituents, and their feelings are about this in the letter that we got from the Turnpike director --- Safety Director, Mr. Brimmeier, showing that Allegheny County will assume the maintenance costs and liability from this bridge when there's so many bridges and roads and infrastructure in this county still un-repaired, including not only my district, a lot of the districts, and I can take you to them and you know which ones they are, like Montour extension and other roads and structures. They aren't happy about this. They don't want to put this as a priority and they don't want to pay and maintain this when there's other things to be done. They want that taken care of. So I just wanted to let you know and bring that to you and to your attention. And again, this is not just me talking on either one of these issues. It's our constituents, yours and mine combined. And I listen to my constituents, and I hope that you do, too. And you will. Thank you, Mr. Chief Executive. That's all I have.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I have a couple points, but being that my esteemed colleague brought up what he brought up, I feel that I need to respond. Chief, you know, you and I have always had our differences about

things, but right is right. I can't speak for my esteemed colleague's district, but my district recognizes the fact that someone who wants to serve the public and has to feed their family at the same time can do both jobs. I don't think it's fair for this Council or anyone else to ask you to do something that everybody else doesn't have to live by the same rules. We unfortunately have to resign, and I don't think it's fair to us. And I don't think it's fair for you to be asked that question over and over just because the right sound byte might make you look bad.

As a former chief of special services for the county, and Chief Full will tell you, the last thing we ever wanted in an emergency were politicians with ties standing over our head when we were trying to get things done. That being said, I'd like to thank you for your staff for the professionalism that they show Chief Full, Chief Moffatt, Joe Olczak, Mike Mackin. I can go on and on. I don't want to name everybody, but you have a great staff around you. And I know, myself, there are many --- the other night at two o'clock in the morning, I was returning e-mails, and I'm only working this part time. So for anybody to say you don't put in eight hours is not fair to you. So with all due respect to my colleague, and he is from a different party than me, right is right. And nobody can say that --- even though we're both Democrats, we went toe to toe in a lot of issues. But you know, if I agree, I agree with you, and you're being sold a bad sale here.

Now, that being said, let me ask my question. You know, I've got a thing about emergency stuff. And the last snowstorms --- being that it's summer now, it's funny how we all forget about how cold we were when everybody's moaning about the humidity, and I'm doing it myself. One of the things that I was interested in is a possibility, maybe, of --- I don't want to call it a summit, because it's kind of maybe not the right word, but for some city and county folks to sit down and talk about, you know, ways to do things better. Commissioner Olczak's staff, in all due respect to the city, they're qualified and they're educated in a lot of different ways in a lot of different emergency stuff, you know, with Chief Full and that. But it actually was Bob that forced us --- I mean, even myself. He made me do terrorist instruction in U.S. biological response when I was chief operating --- he's sitting back there smiling, but he knows it's the truth.

So that being said, maybe some of those things that your folks know could be shared with some of the city people, and maybe some good could come out of it so we, you know, don't end up in the same kind of situation. So that's what I wanted to ask. Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Council for enduring my thoughts.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Mr. Finnerty and then Mr. DeFazio.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm glad to see you here. One of the things I'd like to ask you about tonight is what you said about the commissary. Have we made any progress there?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: I don't have an update on that.

MR. DAVIN: We have made progress on that. We're working with the community there on the transfer of the commissary and exchange over to the new site.

MR. FINNERTY: Right.

MR. DAVIN: It's mostly recreational ---.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Dennis, maybe give a one-page summary to the Council on this.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: If Director Davin could send that ---.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Point of order. Would you tell this gentleman to, like, pay attention to what's going on and leave me alone?

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Okay. Mr. Finnerty has the floor. Hold on. Mr. Finnerty has the floor. Let Mr. Finnerty continue.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. And I sympathize with you.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you. Could you change my seat, please, or do I have to change my name?

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Let Mr. Finnerty continue.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: That's fine with me, too, sir.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Okay. Okay. We're going to have order now. Let Mr. Finnerty ask his question to the Chief Executive.

MR. FINNERTY: I would just like to compliment you on your staff. They do a tremendous job. We're with you 100 percent. We hope you become governor of Pennsylvania. Even though we get things all the time from the other side here --- but it's not political, you know. And you know, some people up here think because they say

that, it isn't. And that's so disingenuous. But I would just like to compliment you and say we're with you. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Mr. DeFazio.

MR. DEFAZIO: Hopefully this is the last time I have to say this. You have to go by the rules of your organization. Some places say you have to take a leave of absence. In Dan's case, you don't have to. Let's do things the fair way. I represent the whole Allegheny County, and I haven't had one person, honestly, come to me with this issue. And I'm asking you Council people, is anybody hearing any of this that Matt's saying?

(Chorus of nays.)

MR. DEFAZIO: Chuck McCullough, I've heard you say that. If Vince was here, maybe he would agree. I'm being as honest as I could be. I haven't had one person come to me and say that, and I represent the whole county. I know you do, too, Chuck.

MR. MCCULLOUGH: We walk on different sides of the street, John.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: You done, John?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yeah. Hopefully I'm finished and Matt's given up on this.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: I doubt it. Mr. Drozd.

MR. DROZD: First and foremost I want to say that it's not --- you know, you should be talking to your constituents, not expecting them just to come to you. You've got to talk to them every day like I do. Secondly, you know, Mr. Ellenbogen, you were a Democratic Committee man, but I ran as a Democrat, so I don't know any party lines. I was a long-term Democrat. In fact, Mr. Onorato and I ran in the Democratic primary at one time with Mr. Wagner, as you know, so ---.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: I think we both lost that race.

MR. DROZD: Yes, we did. Yes, we did. But you had much more money than I did. But before that, I was an independent registered. So I don't know party lines. I'm just talking on behalf of my constituents. And I talk to them and I listen to them. You know, as far as I'm concerned, I still feel very strong, speaking on behalf of our constituents, not just mine. I talked to a lot of people about this because I want to be fair to you. When I get their input or when I get their poll, I don't just want to come to you and say something that they don't say

and they don't talk. I don't talk just on my behalf. I talk on their behalf, like you do, too, I'm sure. So that's it. I think enough's said. You know how I feel. It's up to you as this race gets on and time goes and your times taken and your people are going to draw more upon you.

By the way, I'll tell you one thing. Someone said about an emergency. Remember 9/11. Do not forget it. Do you know who was there right on top of it? It was Mayor Giuliani. So don't tell me that a Chief Executive of a major metropolitan could be somewhere else when there's a major occurrence there. He or she has got to be right on top of it, right there every day. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Mr. Macey.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. Thanks, Chief Executive, for being here today. I'd just like to come down to earth a little bit and make a comment. And that comment is, when I first got involved in politics --- you know, it can get pretty ugly. Sometimes you get those midnight stress letters that accuse you of doing things that you probably really didn't do. So I was a little apprehensive about getting involved in politics. But I can tell you this. After years as a county councilman working with your directors and working with your office --- and certainly, I've been encouraged by the cooperation of our state senators and legislators --- in the last six years --- and I was a victim of the steel mills shutting down in Duquesne. I can tell you, the last six years, there's been more going on in the Mon Valley than before that. So I certainly want to thank you for that.

There's a lot to do. And I know economic development is still --- it's a big thing with us in the Mon Valley, jobs, of course. And thank you so much for stepping up for the Duquesne Flyover and now the McKeesport Flyover, which has been opened up with RIDC Park, those industrial parks. It's been a pleasure working with you, certainly a pleasure working with your directors. Every time I need something, they always step up to the plate. I can't say enough for your office and your administration. Thank you very much.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Mr. Ellenbogen, Mr. Futules and then Mr. Burn.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I just have two points. The first point is, I hear a lot about --- that the Chief's not here and not doing his job. Somebody in this room tell me one time, just once, that somebody or a department dropped the ball because the Chief wasn't on top of it. That's all I'm asking, just once, because I know he's apprised of everything that's going on. And I know he has the right people doing the right job and his people are doing it, and Jim Flynn's always there. So just one time because the Chief wasn't here that something happened. I don't hear anybody. That's what I thought.

I just have one other point. And I really don't need to bring this up, but I'm going to bring it up anyway because I knew you before you were a city councilman and county controller and anything else. This is a really mean-spirited game. And you know, I was always a street politician. I'm probably the worst person to be sitting up here with a tie on, to be honest with you. But the point I'm going to say is that in all the years I've known you, you've never been mean-spirited. You've never gone out of your way to hurt somebody or their family because you didn't like their politics. You've always been a gentleman, no matter what. So regardless of whether you win the governor's race or not, I always will respect you for just being a man and being right with people. And I can't say that about a lot of other people because --- God, I've probably been fired more times for politics than anybody in this room put together.

MR. FINNERTY: You can say that again.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Mr. Futules.

MR. FUTULES: Wow. You know, if I didn't know better, I'd swear you've come here to update us and us to ask you questions about what's going on in the county. And somewhere along the line, it got lost. So I'd like to get back to that for a second. I am the Chairman of the Parks. I'm a proactive type person, and I've always thought of ways of doing things different. And Andy Baechle is a wonderful guy. He always works with me. He's an asset to this county. And I just brought the Community Day to Allegheny County, and would love to see the administration market it, promote it, as we do with Kennywood Park, because it's a big potential for more revenues in our parks. And I'd really like to look into that because we just passed this. The news media loved it and they said, why didn't they do this before? And I

think it's a great idea to promote our parks and let the people see what we really do here.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: I think it's a good opportunity for the Parks Foundation to help promote it.

MR. FUTULES: Absolutely. Just across the board --- you know, we talked about the group rates. And I think it's a great opportunity for entire communities to say, this is the day we're going to go to Plum Borough's wave pool. It's a great opportunity, and I think we should take advantage of it as a county and use it as a marketing tool for revenues in the future. Thank you.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Okay.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman Burn?

MR. BURN: No, I'm fine.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: All right. Thank you, Mr. Executive.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Thank you, everyone.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you for coming. Good luck and keep things moving along the right way. Unfinished business. Sorry. Public comment on agenda items. Oh, we have no speakers on agenda items tonight? Okay. Unfinished business. Committee on Appointment Review, seconding reading. 5768-10.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Councilman Michael Finnerty to serve as a member of the Conservation District Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2010. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Chair DeFazio? Oh, I think Mr. Macey chaired that meeting. I'm sorry. Mr. Macey, acting chairman.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. At the regularly scheduled Appointment Review Committee meeting, Michael Finnerty was sent to the whole Council with an affirmative recommendation, and I make that motion.

MR. MARTONI: Second.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Moved, second. Discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Opposed? The motion carries. Mr. Finnerty is approved. 5769-10.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Donald Newman, P.E. to serve as a member of the Conservation District Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Back to Chair Macey.

MR. MACEY: That's right. Mr. Donald Newman was sent to the full Council with an affirmative approval. I make that motion to approve.

MR. MARTONI: Second.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Moved, second.

Discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Opposed? The motion carries. Mr. Newman is appointed. 5770-10.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Deborah A. Lange, Ph.D., P.E. to serve as a member of the Conservation District Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Back to Chair Macey.

MR. MACEY: Yes. I make a motion to approve Deborah A. Lange. She was sent to full Council with an affirmative recommendation.

MR. MARTONI: Second.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Moved, second.

Discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Opposed? The motion carries. Ms. Lange is approved. 5771-10.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Magisterial District Judge Anthony W. Saveikis to serve as a member of the Agricultural Land Preservation Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2011. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Back to Chair Macey.

MR. MACEY: Judge Saveikis was sent to the full Council with an affirmative recommendation, and I make that motion.

MR. MARTONI: Second.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Moved, second.

Discussion? All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Opposed? The motion carries. Judge Saveikis is approved. Committee on Economic Development and Housing, second reading. 5774-10.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution authorizing the designation of a Recovery Zone pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009; authorizing and directing the designation of the Redevelopment Authority

of Allegheny County as the issuer of Recovery Zone Bonds within the Recovery Zone pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009; authorizing incidental actions and repealing inconsistent resolutions. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Chair Finnerty.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. This was released from committee with a unanimous affirmative recommendation, and I'd like to make a motion.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Moved, second.

Discussion? Please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?

MR. BURN: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Cleary?

MS. CLEARY: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Did Councilman --- Mr.

Gastgeb, are you there?

MR. GASTGEB: Yes. I'm voting yes on

this.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. McCullough?

MR. MCCULLOUGH: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Fitzgerald, President?
PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 14, noes 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Committee on Government Reform, second reading. 5736-10.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution amending the Articles of Incorporation of the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority to extend the term of existence of the authority to a date that is 50 years from the date of the approval of the Amendment to Articles of Incorporation by the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Okay. Now, we had a meeting on the 8th of July. And this is basically the same thing we did, I think, a year ago to make sure that the bond --- that the length of bond issuance is consistent with the length of the Authority existence. So it was affirmatively recommended by the Committee on Government Reform, and I would ask somebody to make a motion for that.

MR. MACEY: I make that motion.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Second.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Moved, second.

Discussion? Call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?

MR. BURN: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Cleary?

MS. CLEARY: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?
MR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. McCullough?
MR. MCCULLOUGH: No.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Fitzgerald, President?
PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 13, noes 1. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: 5741-10.

MR. CATANESE: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County urging the United States Congress to approve House Resolution 5228 to amend the Help America Vote Act, 42 U.S.C. 15301, inter alia, to require public notification of the tally of votes cast on each electronic voting machine at each polling place, together with the total number of individuals who cast votes at those polling places. Sponsored by Council Member Green Hawkins, Finnerty, DeFazio, Macey, Burn, Robinson, Martoni, Fitzgerald and Futules.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: We had a meeting. The Committee on Government Reform met on the 8th of July, and it was affirmatively recommended that this motion be approved. I ask for a motion to approve.

MR. ROBINSON: So moved.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Second.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Moved, second.

Discussion? I can call for a voice vote on this, being a motion. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Opposed? The motion carries. Liaison reports. Are there any liaison reports this evening? Councilwoman Cleary?

MS. CLEARY: Yes. I just have one. After our meeting last week, there was a Board of Health meeting, and Dr. Dixon did talk to the woman concerned about the burning and she was definitely going to send policies of the county about open burning. So hopefully the woman got a satisfactory answer on that.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you, Councilwoman. Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. The Allegheny County Community College Aviation Advisory Board met on --- yesterday, as a matter of fact. And there was concerns about whether the aviation program with the Allegheny County Airport as supported through Pittsburgh Flight Training Center was going to stay intact. I can assure you from the President of Allegheny County Community College down through the teachers, adjunct professors, the aviation program is going to stay intact. And I think the community college is better for it, and I know West Mifflin is better for it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman Finnerty and Councilman Futules.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd just like to mention I was at the Airport Authority Board. And one of the things they mentioned --- and there's a lot of things going on out there to improve the runways, lighting changes to become more energy efficient. But one of the things that happened at the airport, just for public dissemination, is that when we get in a situation like we've been in the last couple weeks when the temperature gets up in the 90s and there's a tremendous drain on the electrical grid system, there's a mandatory reduction that the airport must make at the request of the utility company, and it's usually two megawatts that they have to reduce their intake on. And that's 20 percent of what they use. They use anywhere from 10 to 12 megawatts. So once that happens, they have to turn off some systems. And one of the systems they do turn off is one of the trains, so it takes a little longer to get to your plane. So I just wanted to mention that. That does happen out there and there is a reason why it's happening. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you, Mr. Finnerty. Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Today in the news they imploded a portion of the Turnpike bridge that goes over the Allegheny River. We discussed it last week for about an hour, about the piers. And it turns out that it came up short. The administration has advised us that we will not be pursuing trying to save the piers in Potter Township, the reason being the administration already has plans in place for the new construction of the bridge at Hulton Road, which is supposed to begin in 2011. It will have

pedestrian and biking crossings, which will be more --- I guess better for us because we won't have to maintain it, the state does. And they also have talked about, up towards Tarentum, another portion --- another crossing would be. So the administration felt that it was not necessary for us to save these piers for several reasons. And you Council members had expressed that last week, and that's true. There possibly could have been some liabilities down the road for us. So that is what happened, and I'm just letting everybody know that we will not be saving the piers at the Turnpike Bridge.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you, Mr. Futules. Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: I just wanted to commend County Manager Flynn and Mr. Wojcik on this decision. It was a good decision, and I commend you for your due diligence on these piers. On behalf of our constituents, I thank you, too.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: New business. Ordinances and motions. 5798-10.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2010, Submission 10-10. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Refer to Committee on Budget and Finance. New business, motions. 5799-10.

MR. CATANESE: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County respectfully requesting the leadership of the hospitals operating within Allegheny County to attend a Healthcare Forum before the Allegheny County Council Public Safety Committee, coordinated by Dr. Bruce Dixon, Director of the Allegheny County Health Department, at a time and place to be determined, in order to discuss the hospitals' obligations to serving our communities and urging these stakeholders to take a coordinated approach to healthcare delivery throughout Allegheny County. Sponsored by Councilman Drozd.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman Drozd.

MR. DROZD: Thank you, Mr. President. This is something that's near and dear to my heart, and I'm sure many of my Council members. It was in the committee meeting --- no, not a committee meeting. Excuse me. It was just a meeting with one major hospital provider in the area. As we know, there's two hospitals so far closed or at least modified. One suburb is being reengineered in

Braddock. And a lot of people have a lot of concerns and came to Council very upset.

In the meeting that we attended, and some of you were in that meeting with me, the comment was made when I asked the question, was there another major facility --- major provider that's closing the one hospital in Braddock, that's moving into the same --- it's called a patient catchment area. A patient catchment area is, it comes to so many patients in that area. They're going into the Monroeville area. And the major facility was in that meeting at that time. I asked them, I said, did the two of you ever talk about this? Did you ever confer what your bedding capacity, what's this, what's that? And the answer came back no. And to me and I'm sure some of you in that meeting, that was really disarming and very concerning to all of us because I think there is a coordination. It's starting to appear, what I see, is decisions within the county and the region as a whole, that the location of facilities are now being done and being more profit-oriented and profit-motivated rather than what's the best thing for the community they're trying to serve and the patient catchment area.

We're in a very, very serious situation and crisis, I think, within Allegheny County, that someone has to start asking the right questions and someone has to coordinate a little better. And I think Council is the place to do that. I think Public Safety under the chairmanship of Councilman Burn. I think, though, we also need someone else to weigh in. It may not be just the other Council members. It may be Dr. Dixon. I don't know. We didn't talk about this in the committee meeting. But I think someone with that stature that can bring the right people to the table, even though there's no authority over those people in that essence --- we've really got to start talking. We should be the catalyst to stimulate that and start communicating and talking amongst themselves to say, well, what are you doing? You know, what is best for the communities and what do you see in your long-term plans? And are you talking? From what we've seen in that one meeting, they're not. And this is not too good for the constituents of our county and our region as a whole.

So I think we really have to talk about this, and I'm willing to let this go into committee and maybe hear it out on how we can do this, and with Councilman

Burn --- Chairman Burn, look for ways of bringing very, very solid information and the right people to the table. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman, let me at least make a suggestion. This reminds me of something that we dealt with in the Mon Valley about five or six years ago with Councilman Martoni and Councilman Macey when they were doing all the major bridges over there, the Glenwood Bridge, the Grays Bridge, the Rankin Bridge, the Mansfield Bridge. And what we did is we convened a summit of all the key players. And it almost sounds like that's --- you talk about a forum, but it's almost like a healthcare summit, what I think you're trying to get to.

And what I would suggest --- I don't necessarily agree that Public Safety is where it would be. If we're going to do it, I think it would be in the Health Committee that we would normally do something like this, particularly if Dr. Dixon from the Health Department is part of it. But let me suggest this. And I'll be glad to, you know, appoint you as the convener of this summit to try to bring these folks together. And then you can kind of invite whoever you want, whether it be any of the healthcare providers or the insurance companies or some of the EMS people or whatever. It sounds like you've got some ideas on how you want this to go. So it might be something that you might want to go ahead and do these summits, like Chuck Martoni and Bob Macey and myself have done over the last five years. And we've convened, I don't know, a couple of times a year, three, four times a year, maybe. In a busy year, quarterly. We would bring all the engineering people in, PennDOT, et cetera, together to try to make this work. And it sounds like that's the direction you're trying to go.

MR. DROZD: Yeah. You know, actually, I did say summit. It got lost a little bit in the translation. Maybe I used summit ---.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: I thought I heard the word, but the idea seems to be summit.

MR. DROZD: Yeah. You know, the Health Committee is fine in that way, but also, there's a smack of Public Safety, I think, there really is in this, too. So somewhere we may want to talk about that. Maybe we should scrub it, you know, using the old --- scrub it in both committees. We go into Public Safety. Those issues that refer to Public Safety and then we go to Health

Committee for those issues that are pertinent to the health issues. So maybe we go in both areas.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Mr. Burn?

MR. BURN: Well, I'll defer to the will of the body, but I think you hit the nail on the head, Mr. President. It's such a multifaceted issue that I think Councilman Drozd is discussing here and it crosses over so many of our different committees, which are so structured with specific issue-oriented types of committees that we have. I think summit might be the best way to go, because you're not limited by the --- there's no limitation based on the structure of committee. I mean, it can be a freethinking type of a thing. You can take whatever direction you think it needs to go. I'll defer to the will of the room here. If you want to put it in Public Safety, we'll have hearings. But I think a summit --- similar to what I did about a year and a half ago with respect to problem landlords and we had a summit, we invited all the police chiefs in. They sat here. We had about seven police chiefs. We had a summit on public safety as it relates to problem landlords, absentee landlords. It wasn't even really in the Public Safety Committee, per se. We had a sit down and very productive conversation.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Yeah. Councilman Drozd, I think that might be --- as the convener of that, that would give you the ability to go out and invite whoever you think would be the proper people to do that. So just a suggestion. If you want to think about it and then, you know, come back and decide how you want to approach that.

MR. DROZD: Yes, that's fine with me. You know, there's a process within what we do based upon where I come from in that part of the world where we did readiness issues --- medical readiness issues. And we actually met at what they call a med forum of actually locating where those facilities are and how the response times and all those issues would someday --- someday --- believe me, they say one of your family members, if not you, yourself, as well as our constituents. So this really has to be looked at. So fine. It's fine with me whichever way it may be, but it has to be looked at and scrubbed. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you. 5800-10.

MR. CATANESE: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County urging the University of Pittsburgh

Medical Center, UPMC, to forego demolition of the now-vacant UPMC Braddock Hospital building, and instead, to donate the building and parcels upon which the building is situated to Allegheny County, together with the sum of \$4.5 million, which is \$500,000 less than the amount of funds that UPMC would have spent on the demolition of the hospital, in order to enable the county to undertake future economic development of the building site. Sponsored by Councilman McCullough.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman McCullough?

MR. MCCULLOUGH: Mr. Fitzgerald, I'd like this to go to the committee, too, but I'm also requesting that when it goes to the committee, perhaps it can be considered at the next available committee dates.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Okay. We'll take that under consideration. I'm not sure which committee to go through, but I thought you were going to ask for a motion.

MR. MCCULLOUGH: No. I think this is something we ought to kick around a bit.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Okay. Public comment on general items.

MR. GASTGEB: Mr. Fitzgerald?

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: I'm sorry. Mr. Gastgeb? Yes, go ahead.

MR. GASTGEB: I couldn't hear very well for the liaisons. I have a liaison report.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Oh, I'm sorry. Yeah. I apologize. If you have a liaison report, now's the time to do it.

MR. GASTGEB: Just briefly regarding our fair grounds. I wanted to let everybody know that when we're on summer recess, the fair grounds will be very active with some events. June 25th will be a car cruise. I think they counted over 1,000 cars are supposed to be there, and then shortly after that, in August, we'll have a rib festival and then a mini-fair for Labor Day. I just want to make sure that people know that we're on fairgrounds and we have a lot of ---.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Excuse me, Vince. We couldn't hear the date. What date is that for the car cruise?

MR. GASTGEB: July 25th.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: July 25th. Okay.

MR. GASTGEB: And then throughout August, there's going to be a mini-fair and a rib festival through

Labor Day. A lot of people like using our fairgrounds. I'd like to make a comment on the implosion ---.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Wait. Can you hold on a second? The stenographer is having a tough time hearing you, Vince. Go ahead.

MR. GASTGEB: I just want to thank you for allowing debate last week on this implosion. I think through the debate and the sense of Mr. Drozd, we have a better solution, so I think our body did the work to find it.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: I agree. And not to belabor it. I think last week's --- the will of this Council is to ask everybody to look at it. And that's what they did. The Turnpike Commission, the county, our engineering, our Public Works. That's the way a process is supposed to work. Obviously, this Council doesn't have the ability to enter into contracts. That would be going against the Home Rule Charter. But we have the ability to bring things forward and have ideas be considered by different bodies, and I think that's the way it was. So I appreciate your comments.

Public comment on general items. We have two this evening. Mr. Fawcett is not here. He was probably going to talk about the piers. Mr. Futules covered that. Mr. Mel Packer? Is Mr. Packer here? I don't see Mr. Packer. No further speakers this evening. Do I have a motion to adjourn?

(Chorus of motions.)

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: We're adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:10 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify, as the stenographic reporter, that the foregoing proceedings were taken stenographically by me, and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my direction; and that this transcript is a true and accurate record to the best of my ability.


Court Reporter